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Message Text

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45 40
ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-15 PM-07 NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 MC-02 AID-20 IGA-02 COA-02 L-03

H-03 OMB-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 EB-11 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 /115 R

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O 011418Z AUG 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LIMA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 151105

E.O. 11652:GDS
TAGS: MASS, PFOR, PE, US
SUBJECT: PERUVIAN INQUIRY ABOUT STATUS OF FMS REQUESTS

1. PERUVIAN MINISTER COUNSELLOR ROCA ON JULY 31 ASKED DESK WHETHER JULY 26 ACTION BY HOUSE CONCERNING AMENDMENTS RELATED TO THE FISHERIES DISPUTE--SEC. 620(O) OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT, SEC. 3(B) OF THE FOREIGN MILITARY SALES ACT AND SECTION 5 OF THE FISHERMEN'S PROTECTIVE ACT--WOULD AFFECT SALES TO PERU UNDER THE FOREIGN MILITARY SALES (FMS) ACT. DESK REPLIED THAT HOUSE ACTION MERELY DEFEATED ATTEMPTS BY HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE TO DO AWAY WITH THESE RESTRICTIVE AMENDMENTS. THUS, WITH RESPECT TO FMS, THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT, AS PASSED BY THE HOUSE DID NOT REPEAT NOT CHANGE SECTION 3(B). ROCA SAID AIR MINISTER GILARDI WAS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE POSSIBLE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF HOUSE ACTION ON PROPOSED
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PERUVIAN AIR FORCE PURCHASES UNDER FMS. HE ADDED THAT ALL THREE PERUVIAN ARMED SERVICES ATTACHES WERE WORRIED ABOUT THIS.

2. ROCA ASKED ABOUT SEVERAL PERUVIAN FMS REQUESTS AND DESK REPLIED THAT AMBASSADOR BELCHER HAD OFFICIALLY INFORMED THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT THAT WE WERE PREPARED TO SELL PERU A-37B AIRCRAFT, THE DESTROYER ISHERWOOD AND SPARES FOR ALL THREE SERVICES. ROCA ASKED STATUS THESE ITEMS AND WAS TOLD PERU HAD SIGNED A LETTER OF OFFER (FORM DD 1513) FOR THE A-37B AIRCRAFT BUT ON A CASH BASIS. PERUVIAN AIR ATTACHE REQUESTED CREDIT BUT WAS TOLD THAT NO REPLY COULD BE GIVEN ON CREDIT REQUEST UNTIL EARLY OCTOBER. WITH RESPECT TO ISHERWOOD, PERUVIANS HAD REPLIED AFFIRMATIVELY BY DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO OUR OFFER OF SALE BUT IN THE SAME NOTE HAD ASKED TO BUY FIVE OTHER SHIPS. FINALLY, SPARES REQUESTS FOR ALL THREE SERVICES ARE BEING PROCESSED.

3. ROCA THEN ASKED ABOUT OTHER DIPLOMATIC NOTES CONCERNING PURCHASE REQUESTS FOR THE PERUVIAN AIR FORCE (16 F-5E AIRCRAFT AND 14 BELL 212R HELICOPTERS), NAVY (FIVE SHIPS IN ADDITION TO THE ISHERWOOD) AND ARMY (LENGTHY LIST INCLUDING ARTILLERY, MECHANIZED AND ENGINEER ITEMS). DESK REPLIED THOSE ALL UNDER CONSIDERATION. WITH RESPECT TO ARMY REQUESTS DESK STATED THAT U.S. TECHNICAL TEAM HAD RECENTLY VISITED PERU IN ORDER GIVE USG A CLEARER IDEA OF PERUVIAN ARMY REQUIREMENTS AND TO ADVISE PERUVIANS ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF DESIRED ITEMS. ROCA ASKED WHEN DECISION ON THESE REQUESTS COULD BE EXPECTED AND WHAT FACTORS INVOLVED IN DECISION. DESK REPLIED THAT SEVERAL FACTORS INVOLVED, INCLUDING FACT THAT WE DID NOT YET HAVE LEGISLATION FOR FY 74 SINCE HOUSE AND SENATE HAD DIFFERENT APPROACHES AND THERE WAS LITTLE PROSPECT LEGISLATIVE PROBLEMS WOULD BE RESOLVED BEFORE EARLY AUTUMN. ROCA ASKED ABOUT 20 MILLION DOLS CREDIT FOR PERU MENTIONED IN CPD FOR FY 74. DESK REPLIED THIS PLANNING FIGURE AND WE WOULD NOT BE IN A POSITION GIVE ASSURANCES ON CREDIT FOR FY 74 UNTIL EARLY AUTUMN. ROCA SAID HE UNDERSTOOD 20 MILLION DOLS CREDIT WAS FOR ALL THREE PERUVIAN SERVICES. DESK
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AGREED. ROCA THEN REFERRED TO HEMISPHERIC CEILING ON FMS AND STATED THAT EVEN IF US AGREED TO SELL ALL FMS PERU HAD REQUESTED, HE DOUBTED ALL PERUVIAN REQUESTS COULD BE ACCOMMODATED WITHIN PERUVIAN SHARE OF HEMISPHERIC TOTAL. DESK AGREED AND POINTED OUT THAT PERUVIAN REQUESTS ALL SEEMED TO INVOLVE CREDIT WHICH IN THE AGGREGATE WOULD PROBABLY EXCEED POSSIBLE

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PERUVIAN SHARE OF CREDIT AVAILABLE TO HEMISPHERE.

4. ROCA SAID HE WOULD INFORM GILARDI. HE NOTED THAT FISHING SEASON WOULD SOON BE UPON US AND THAT EVEN A SINGLE SEIZURE COULD BE "FATAL". ROGERS

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